

From: Bill Eaton
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/2/02 5:39pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern (and it should concern all of us):

Please let the settlement agreed upon by the Justice Department and the nine states stand without further litigation. While Microsoft may have had some questionable practices, those have been recognized and dealt with. It concerns me greatly that competitors who have not been as innovative continue to try and use the judicial system to replace and/or augment their own marketing efforts.

I have tremendous faith in the American free-enterprise system and its ability to police itself on most matters. This is not the time in our history to be stifling creativity and innovation in the name of a "level playing field". Business rarely is that, and we cannot afford to suppress our strongest companies for the sake of a few. By the way, for the record, I hold stock in some of Microsoft's competitors, and still feel strongly that "enough is enough".

Thank you.

William L. Eaton